

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06939 281623Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----281714Z 030758 /50

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
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C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06939

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, UK
SUBJECT: OWEN ON THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE

1. AT APRIL 28 MEETING WITH LAKE PARTY, FOREIGN SECRE-
TARY OWEN SAID THAT SINCE THE UNITED STATES IS PLANNING
TO SEND A DELEGATION TO THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE--PARTICU-
LARLY IF THE DELEGATION IS HEADED BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG--
THEN THERE IS A GOOD CASE FOR THE UK TO BE REPRESENTED
AS WELL. HE SAID HMG MIGHT SEND MINISTER OF STATE TED
ROWLANDS. OWEN HOPES THAT, IF THE UK DOES INDEED DECIDE
TO SEND A GROUP TO MAPUTO, BOTH THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH
DELEGATIONS WILL CLOSELY COORDINATE THEIR POSITIONS.

2. COMMENT: FCO THINKING ON THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE IS
UNDERGOING A RAPID EVOLUTION. NON-ATTENDANCE AT A
CONFERENCE WHICH DISCUSSES ISSUES OF DIRECT RELEVANCE TO
UK AND AT WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS REPRESENTED WOULD
APPEAR TO PUT THE BRITISH DOG IN THE MANGER. IT WOULD
ALSO RUB AGAINST THE "JOINT" NATURE OF THE CURRENT IN-
ITIATIVE ON RHODESIA. OWEN NOW SEEMS LIKELY TO SEND A
DELEGATION.

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Message Attributes

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